

Warren County Board of Supervisors

Committee: Public Works - DPW and Parks, Recreation & Railroad

Date: May 29, 2012

Committee Members Present:

Supervisors Bentley
Merlino
Conover
Taylor
Frasier
Mason

Others Present:

Jeffery Tennyson, Superintendent of Public Works
Kevin Hajos, Deputy Superintendent of Public Works
Paul Butler, Director of Parks, Recreation & Railroad
Representing Saratoga & North Creek Railway:

Steve Torrico, General Manager
Daniel G. Stec, Chairman of the Board
JoAnn McKinstry, Assistant to the County
Administrator

Committee Members Absent:

Supervisors Monroe
Wood
Dickinson

Martin Auffredou, County Attorney
Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board
Kevin Geraghty, Budget Officer
Supervisor Kenny
Supervisor Loeb
Supervisor Strainer
Supervisor Thomas
Julie Pacyna, Purchasing Agent
Pam Morin, Event Facilitator First Wilderness
Corridor
Don Lehman, *The Post Star*
Nicole Livingston, Second Deputy Clerk

Mr. Bentley called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 9:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the prior Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Paul Butler, Director of Parks, Recreation & Railroad, who distributed copies of his meeting agenda to the Committee members, *a copy of the agenda is also on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Butler announced the first item on the Agenda was an update on the Saratoga & North Creek Railway (SNCR) which would be presented by Steve Torrico, General Manager of the SNCR. Mr. Torrico provided the ridership numbers for Memorial Day weekend as follows: Saturday, 192 passengers; Sunday, 254 passengers; and Monday, 134 passengers; for a total of 581 passengers over the weekend, which he said was very encouraging for this time of the year. He reported that the new train schedule was working well, with a number of people riding from Thurman to North Creek and from Hadley to Saratoga. Mr. Torrico asserted that several of the locomotives had been sitting idle for a few months which resulted in sparks igniting some small ground fires along the track. He stated that the Emergency Preparedness Plan did prove to work well in such an instance. He added that the Mechanical Department was taking extra precautions and

would be installing spark arresters into the smoke stacks of the locomotives in order to avoid future problems. He introduced Lisa Auli, with SNCRR, who distributed a handout to the Committee members that detailed their advertising for the train, a copy of which is on file with the minutes. He noted that the information provided was in preparation for their request for relief in the "Day Out with Thomas" Event. He requested the Committee to review the information and stated that he would submit their official request prior to the next meeting. Ms. Auli briefly reviewed the information that was distributed and highlighted the advertising that had been done and the partnerships that they were creating within the communities.

Jeff Tennyson, Superintendent of Public Works, acknowledged Pam Morin, Event Facilitator, was present and had additional information relative to the train to present to the Committee. Ms. Morin mentioned that the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor Project was promoting the towns from Corinth to North Creek and assisting the town Supervisors create and/or enhance events in each community. She shared a copy of an ad she had recently taken out to showcase the river and highways entitled "Rail, River & Roads", a copy of which is on file with the minutes. She added that on the backside of the advertisement she had included the train schedule. Ms. Morin asked Mr. Torrico to explain the difference between a Station Stop and a Flag Stop. Mr. Torrico apprised that all of the stations, except for The Glen and Glen Hudson, were considered Station Stops which meant the train stopped at the station on the advertised time. Flag Stops, he continued, meant that the train would slow down at a station and check if there were any passengers waiting and if so, the train would stop. Ms. Morin noted she was also in the process of working on a "Driving Map" which would include script about each town in the County.

Mr. Tennyson advised the next item on the Agenda was a request for a transfer of funds in the amount of \$8,500 from regular salaries to part-time salaries to assign funding for temporary Laborers through the summer season.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the request for a transfer of funds as outlined above, and to refer the same to the Finance Committee. A copy of the Transfer of Funds request is on file with the minutes.

Under the Items of Interest portion of the Agenda, Mr. Butler expounded that the spring stocking of fish had been completed and a summary was included in the Agenda packet. He informed that there was a surplus of Rainbow Trout which he tried to maintain each year in case the two year olds were taken out by the ice. Mr. Butler noted that the two year old Rainbow Trout were bigger this year, averaging sixteen inches in length. He added the local Fishing Derbies had all gone very well.

Mr. Tennyson referred to the last page of the Agenda which was a flyer pertaining to the Warrensburg, NY Bike Rally. He advised that this was an event that had occurred in Warrensburg for the past nine years and this would be the tenth year. He reported that this year the event would be relocating to the Warren County Fairgrounds and the

necessary facility use permit had been executed. The event would commence on Friday, June 1, 2012, he said, and would run for ten days, making it the largest event to occur at the County Fairgrounds.

Mr. Merlino entered the meeting at 9:47 a.m.

Mr. Tennyson remarked that there would be thirty-five vendors there for ten days and he opined this was the best and most significant use of the Fairgrounds. He stated that the organizer of the event estimated the daily count of visitors to the event at 2,000 to 3,000 people and all of the vendors were motorcycle focused vendors. Mr. Tennyson apprised that the organizer had requested a multi-year permit; however, he said, he informed the organizer that the County would like to get through this year prior to making a further commitment. He asserted that next month he would present a recommendation to the Committee for consideration of a long term agreement with this event.

Chairman Stec entered the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Mr. Strainer questioned if the Fairgrounds were advertised for rent and Mr. Tennyson replied in the negative, noting there was a link on the County website that included a user permit for the site. Mr. Mason asked what the rental fee was for the Fairgrounds and Mr. Tennyson responded the County charged \$150 a day, which was reduced from the previous amount of \$300 a day that was charged several years ago. A brief discussion ensued with regard to use of the Fairgrounds and the associated permit.

Concluding the Agenda review with the Referrals, Mr. Tennyson advised Martin Auffredou, County Attorney, had an update regarding changes to the agreement between the County and the Town of Johnsbury relating to joint ownership of property owned in the Town of Johnsbury. Mr. Auffredou reported that an agreement was reached in 2000 between the County and the Town in connection with a parcel of property located in Johnsbury known as Railroad Place, specifically the acquisition and governance of that property. He further stated that it was the desire of the County to amend the agreement to clarify that the White House property, which was located on County-owned property, was to be maintained by the County for County and railroad purposes. Mr. Auffredou informed that he had drafted an amendment to the agreement and had forwarded the same to Supervisor Vanselow for review on May 21, 2012, that indicated that the Town of Johnsbury did not have any responsibility or obligation to maintain the White House; however, he continued, in accordance with past practice, the restroom facilities located within the White House should continue to be generally available for public use during Town sponsored events. He added that the amendment would also provide that the White House could be used for either County or railroad purposes.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously to approve the amendment to the agreement between the County and the Town of Johnsbury relating to a parcel of property located in Johnsbury known as Railroad Place

as outlined above. The necessary resolution was authorized for the June 15, 2012 Board meeting and a copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.

There being no further Parks, Recreation & Railroad business to discuss, privilege of the floor was extended to Mr. Tennyson who distributed copies of the DPW agenda to the Committee members. *A copy of the agenda is also on file with the minutes.*

Commencing the Agenda review, Mr. Tennyson referred to the Overtime Report included in the packet. He informed that the report was now being generated to reflect a monthly basis versus a reporting based on pay periods. He noted that to date, the overtime use was well below average for this year.

Item 2 on the Agenda, Mr. Tennyson said, was the Fuel Report which reflected an overage of approximately \$30,000.

Mr. Tennyson advised Item 3 was a request for an intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Thurman for use of the County Motor Fuel System. He explained that the Town of Thurman desired to add certain personnel and vehicles to the County Fueling system and all terms and conditions would remain the same as other Town users of the System. He added that access keys would be issued today, and he requested that the resolution reflect an effective date of May 29, 2012.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Mason and carried unanimously to approve the request for an intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Thurman effective May 29, 2012, as outlined above. The necessary resolution was authorized for the June 15, 2012 Board meeting, and a copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Tennyson remarked the next two items on the Agenda pertained to the Corinth Road Reconstruction Project. He stated the first request was to authorize the closure of multiple Road Projects and to transfer the remaining funds into Capital Project No. H199.9550 280 Corinth Road Reconstruction. The next request, he said, was to increase Capital Project No. H199.9550 280 Corinth Road Reconstruction in the amount of \$59,457.14 to cover the interest fees associated with the Bond for the project, with the source of funding to be a transfer from the aforementioned closure of Road Projects.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve the request to authorize the closure of multiple Road Projects and to transfer the remaining funds into Capital Project No. H199.9550 280 Corinth Road Reconstruction and to refer the same to the Finance Committee. The resolution request form is on file with the minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve the request to increase Capital Project No. H199.9550 280 Corinth Road Reconstruction in the amount of \$59,457.14 to cover the interest fees associated with the

Bond for the project, with the source of funding to be a transfer from the aforementioned closure of Road Projects and to refer the same to the Finance Committee. The resolution request form is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Tennyson directed the Committee members to the Items of Interest portion of the Agenda. He distributed photos of the Mill Pond Pedestrian Bridge, the Butternut Flats Road and the Hadley-Luzerne Bridge Rehabilitation, copies of which are on file with the minutes. He apprised that the Brant Lake Mill Pond Pedestrian Bridge was pulled by his crews using a contract crane and the bridge was completely rehabilitated and upgraded. He noted that lifting lugs were added to the outside of the bridge to allow easy and safe lifting of the bridge in the future. In connection with the Butternut Flats Road, Mr. Tennyson reported that a couple sections of the road were reconstructed, and the rest of the road received an inch and a half overlay.

Kevin Hajos, Deputy Superintendent of Public Works, referred to the Beach Road Reconstruction and advised that the contract had been awarded to Kubricky Construction Corporation who would commence work immediately following Americade. He asserted that they would begin construction with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (NYS DEC) portion of the project to 9L. He informed that the work in that area would include new drainage, sidewalks, a multi-use path, curbing and conventional asphalt. Mr. Hajos announced that a meeting with the Stake Holders Committee would be held with the local businesses, the Town and Village of Lake George, the County and some of the residents to provide everyone with an update on the schedule of the project. Mr. Tennyson noted the NYS DEC section of the road would be engineered with the existing consultant obtained by the County and done as an add-on to the County's contract, followed by a request in the future for an amended contract to reflect additional design work for the NYS DEC portion of the road. He further stated that the contract amendment would be 100% covered by Federal and State monies. He concluded that the NYS DEC construction on their section would commence in the spring of 2013 and be completed by the end of 2013 to coincide with the completion of the County section.

Relative to the Hadley-Luzerne Bridge Rehabilitation, Mr. Hajos expounded the contract for steel and deck repairs had been awarded and work had begun. He added that alternating one-way traffic had been established with temporary signals. He reported that they anticipated the project would be completed in approximately one month. Mr. Tennyson asserted that an additional change order would be forthcoming due to another gusset plate that was identified as an issue once they were able to get under the bridge and he believed that the amount would be able to be covered out of the existing Capital Project. In response to an inquiry, Mr. Tennyson apprised that the bridge was located on the County border and therefore, the project was a 50/50 share with Saratoga County. Through an agreement with Saratoga County, he continued, the County had taken the lead on this project and Saratoga County would take the lead for the next major rehabilitation needed on that bridge.

Mr. Tennyson mentioned the last matter listed under the Items of Interest on the Agenda

pertained to the Aquatic Invasive Species signs. He stated that the County's Sign Shop had produced the signs and he revealed the design to the Committee members. He recalled that the signs were produced as a result of the adoption of Local Law No. 9 of 2011 in relation to preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species in Warren County, and he advised one of the signs was mounted last week at Norowal Marina. He noted that the design of the sign was generated in conjunction with the Lake George Association (LGA), NYS DEC and Beth Gillis, of the Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board & Economic Development District; and the direct material cost to his Department was approximately \$15 to produce the sign and required one hour of labor. He informed that twenty to thirty signs would be needed to cover all of the marinas in the County, which would amount to \$400 to \$600 in material expense that was currently being taken from existing DPW funds. Mr. Tennyson advised he had requested the LGA to identify other funding sources to assist in recouping the material costs. He acknowledged the goal was to place the signs at every water body in the County.

Concluding the Agenda review, Mr. Tennyson stated that there were no referral items this month.

In connection with Solid Waste & Recycling, Mr. Geraghty asked if anyone had received any credits for the recyclables from Waste Management. Mr. Bentley replied in the negative for the Town of Horicon and added that his Town was still being overcharged for the garbage disposal. Mr. Auffredou interjected that he had spoken with a contact at Waste Management who had assured him that the credits would be given and all of the towns would be made whole. He said he would make another call today to obtain additional information.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion made by Mr. Conover and seconded by Mrs. Frasier, Mr. Bentley adjourned the Public Works Committee meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Livingston, Second Deputy Clerk